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THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

OLDEST BEE-PAPER IN AMERICA

GEORGE W. YORK,
Editor.

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— TO BEE-CULTURE.

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Rev. E. T. Abbott, one of our correspondents, and dealer in bee-supplies in St. Joseph, Mo., goes to Jacksonville, Fla., in a few days, to remain about six months. Mrs. Abbott, who is a regular business woman, will have charge of their bee-supply interests at "St. Joe."

Mrs. Atchley, in a letter to us dated at Greenville, Tex., on Dec. 6th, says:

It is warm and pleasant here, and bees are working on apple-bloom and other flowers, and gathering some honey.

That sounds almost nice enough to make the reader feel "pleasant." Why, here in the North the bees are housed up for winter, and in some places blizzards have been "in style." What a large country is ours. It will suit everybody—excepting those who won't be pleased, any way.

LATER.—Mrs. Atchley informs us that her address will hereafter be Greenville, Tex. She had expected to move to Beeville, Tex., but has now postponed it.

What About Adulteration?

—This number of the BEE JOURNAL contains several articles on the subject of honey adulteration, and, with what is presented in these editorial columns, makes this a very interesting issue. Please read all that is written on this important matter, and then see what you think about it.

As Bro. Root, in last *Gleanings*, makes a number of excellent suggestions relating to this whole subject, we reproduce them for the benefit of our readers. Here is the editorial referred to:

Adulterating Honey—Is it Practiced? If so, What Shall we do About It?

In the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for Nov. 17th, Prof. Cook has an able article in which he shows the extent to which honey is adulterated. As chemists are now able to successfully detect all sorts of honey mixtures, he urges that our States adopt good laws, such as, for instance, Michigan has. In his opinion, the National Bee-Keepers' Union is just the organization to enforce them, because good laws will not enforce themselves.

Under the able management of Mr. Newman, and with a modified Constitution, he thinks the Union could make things lively. In the next AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL Mr. Newman replies. So far, he says, not one of the members of the Union has asked to have the organization reorganized.

Right here may we suggest that people generally will not express themselves unless given an opportunity to vote. If the General Manager would state, in a circular letter, the desirability of having the Constitution changed, and submit to

them a voting blank, which they could return, we feel sure that every one would ask for the change.

But to return: The present General Manager, on account of ill-health, feels that he is unable to assume such added responsibility. It would need a younger man, he thinks—one full of vigor and push. Mr. Newman is the man, but if he is not available, we would recommend some bee-keeper who is also a lawyer and legislator—such a person, for instance, as R. L. Taylor.

With a Bee-Keepers' Union of 5,000 members, its chief could be salaried, and yet have necessary funds for carrying on the work of securing evidence, and arresting and prosecuting the guilty parties. But how about the membership? We feel that a very large number of our own subscribers (and this will be true of the constituency of other bee-papers) would fill a membership blank and plank down a dollar if a return envelope were placed before them.

The reason, we think, why there has not been a more hearty response before, is because we have not yet given those who are diffident about writing, an opportunity to express themselves. At any rate, it would not cost a great deal to try the experiment.

Out of our over ten thousand paid-up subscribers, to every one of whom we would submit blanks, we feel pretty sure we could get pretty close on to 2,000 who would become members of that organization.

The present Union does not offer enough substantial benefits to make the mass of bee-keepers feel the necessity of enrolling their names. But a Union that could not only defend them against disagreeable neighbors, but could also ferret out and carry on successfully prosecutions against adulterators—in fact, champion the rights of bee-keepers in all things, would offer sufficient inducements to call out a large support from bee-keepers.

We should like to hear from our prominent contributors, for next issue, as well as from the General Manager through the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. There is yet time enough for us to get the matter in such shape that it can be presented before the national association at Washington.

It is very generous in Bro. Root to offer to "submit" blanks to the subscribers to *Gleanings*, but he will find it will not pay, unless he has much better results than the BEE JOURNAL has had

after devoting thousands of dollars worth of space to advertising the Bee-Keepers' Union, and then has only secured about 500 members. However, we should be much pleased to see the experiment tried.

General Manager Newman sent us the following letter for publication, after having read the foregoing from Bro. Root:

I have carefully read the editorial on page 897 of *Gleanings* for Dec. 1st, and as therein requested, I will offer a few remarks on the matters at issue.

Mr. Root desires me to "state in a circular letter, the desirability of having the Constitution changed, and submit to the members of the National Bee-Keepers' Union a Voting Blank, with return printed envelope," etc.

The advocates of the measure should certainly be the ones to show the "desirability of the change," and if Mr. Root, or any other one of its advocates, will undertake that duty, I will quote it in my forthcoming Annual Report, and call for a vote on the subject. As I have never advocated the measure, it would be quite out of place for me to champion the measure before the members of the Union. I will act in an impartial manner, and refrain from the discussion, simply to get the full, free and unbiased vote of the members of the Union.

I hope to have my 8th Annual Report ready about Dec. 20th, and then the whole thing can in it be laid before the membership, and the matters to be voted upon can be included in the regular Voting Blank for Officers. This can be done without extra expense to the Union, and will settle the whole question in a legitimate and authorized manner.

Bro. Root very generously offers to send out 10,000 Circulars, Voting Blanks, and return envelopes to his subscribers. Why, that will cost \$100 for postage alone, besides printing and stationery. Why not request all the bee-periodicals to devote one advertising page to the Union, and print thereon a Circular and Voting Blank? Then ask the subscribers to fill up the Voting Blank and enclose with a dollar for annual dues, to the Manager. That will save hundreds of dollars, and still get at all the intelligent and progressive bee-keepers of America at one and the same time.

If this meets the views of the advocates of the measure, I will get up a Voting Blank, and send an electrotype of it to all the bee-papers, for publication as suggested.

I will send this letter to every bee-paper, and endeavor to get the views of the editors, and if the proposition is agreed to, will send the electrotype in time for the first issues of each periodical in 1893.

I will also do anything that seems wise, which may be suggested by other persons, and I hereby request any one who has suggestions or ideas on this subject to offer, to send them to me at once—for "in the multitude of counsel there is wisdom," said an ancient sage.

THOMAS G. NEWMAN.

Chicago, Ills., Dec. 9, 1892.

The AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is ready to co-operate most heartily and forcibly in whatever scheme is decided upon (except that of "regulation" suggested on page 787), to endeavor to stop the adulteration of honey or any other food. We await with interest the action of the members of the Bee-Keepers' Union.

Mr. W. R. Graham, of Greenville, Tex., has been appointed to take charge of the Texas State bee-exhibit at the World's Fair next year. This is a wise selection, and our friend Graham will fill the position with credit to himself and honor to his great State. Mrs. Atchley will superintend his apiaries during his absence, which will be a large part of next year. He is fortunate in being able to secure the services of such an energetic and faithful apiarist.

Mr. C. A. Hatch, of Ithaca, Wis., we learn from the *Wisconsin Farmer*, has been engaged to lecture before the State Farmers' Institute in Wisconsin until April, 1893. He will probably talk on bees and sheep, as he is well posted in these industries. It will pay all who can, to hear Mr. Hatch.

"Bees and Honey"—see page 781.

The North American.—As announced last week, we publish below the programme, and other information concerning the meeting, of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association in Washington, D. C., on the 27th, 28th, and 29th of this month. As expected, Bro. Hutchinson has arranged a most excellent "feast" for those who attend, and are thus able to "partake."

Read the following announcement of particulars all through carefully, and then see if you cannot in some way "get there," too!

The North American Bee-Keepers' Convention.

The North American Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its 23rd annual convention Dec. 27th, 28th and 29th, at the Randall House, corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and 15th Street, Washington, D. C.

This hotel is new, handsomely furnished, and first-class in all its appointments, and is the most centrally and beautifully located of any hotel in Washington. The regular rates are \$3.00 a day, but to those attending the convention, they will be only \$2.50. Besides this, if only 15 members stop at the house, a hall in the hotel will be furnished free. Otherwise, the charge for the hall will be \$5.00 per day. Of course there are other cheaper hotels to which those who choose can go. Rates as low as \$1.75 can be secured. Or a room at \$1.00 a day can be obtained, and meals taken upon the European plan.

The convention will be held when all railroads will give a round-trip for the price of one and one-third fare. It may be well to explain, however, that these rates are given only for local traffic. In other words, a person who has to pass over more than one road cannot buy a through ticket and take advantage of the reduced rates. In order to take advantage of the reduced rates he will be obliged to first buy a round-trip ticket over his own road; then upon reaching the next road, buy one over that, and so on.

It may be possible that a limited return ticket could be bought nearly as cheaply as to pay these locally reduced holiday rates. Let all consult their ticket agents in regard to this before buying their tickets.

The trunk lines would have granted

reduced rates (one and one-third fare), but there must be 100 persons present. Should there be less than 100 present holding railroad certificates, the reduced rate would be withheld. Should we adopt the certificate plan, and then the attendance be less than 100, there would be bitter disappointment and loss, as, had the members not *expected* to return at one-third fare upon presentation of their certificates, they would have taken advantage of other reductions. As it now is, those living on roads leading into Washington *direct* will be all right, while those coming over more than one road can manage as suggested.

PROGRAMME.

First Day—Tuesday, Dec. 27, Afternoon Session—2:00 P. M.

Payment of annual dues; reception of new members, and distribution of badges.

President's Address—Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa.

Discussion.

Grading Honey—Dr. C. C. Miller, Marengo, Ills.

Discussion.

Question-box.

Evening Session—7:30 P. M.

Self-hivers—E. R. Root, Medina, O.

Discussion.

Question-box.

Second Day—Wednesday, Dec. 28, Morning Session—9:30 A. M.

Detecting the Adulteration of Honey—Prof. A. J. Cook, Agricultural College, Mich.

Discussion. (Prof. H. W. Wiley, United States Chemist, is expected to be present and join in the discussion.)

Varieties of Bees and their Characteristics—Frank Benton, Washington, D. C.

Discussion.

Question-box.

Afternoon Session—2:30 P. M.

What the Department of Agriculture Ought to Do for Apiculture—P. H. Elwood, Starkville, N. Y.

What the Department of Agriculture Has Done and Can Do for Apiculture—C. V. Riley, Government Entomologist, Washington, D. C.

Discussion.

Question-box.

Evening Session—7:30 P. M.

Shall the Scope of the Bee-Keepers' Union be Broadened?—Thomas G. Newman, Chicago, Ills.

Discussion.

Question-box.

Third Day—Thursday, Dec. 29, Morning Session.

Selection of place for holding next meeting.

Election of Officers.

Reports of Committees.

Completion of Unfinished Business.

Question-box.

Adjournment.

Just a word in regard to the fewness of the topics: Some of the topics are of unusual importance, and deserve most thorough discussion. It is very unsatisfactory to have an important discussion in full blast cut off short, and perhaps referred to a committee in order to give room to the next topic. A full convention can bring out all the points much more fully than a few men in a committee room. One suggestion leads to another, and "in the multitude of counselors there is wisdom."

The questions in the question-box (often of importance) are frequently referred to a committee to be answered. A discussion in full convention is more likely to bring out the truth.

If any one has any topic or question that he would like discussed, and will not be present to ask for its discussion, let him write to me at once, and I will see that the matter is brought to the notice of the convention. The discussion of a topic often leads to another which would be very desirable to discuss, but lack of time prevents. It is believed that the above programme will allow a reasonable time for the discussion of these interesting side-questions that are continually springing up.

W. Z. HUTCHINSON, Sec.

Wisconsin Bee-Keepers.—

We have received the following letter from Dr. Vance, which he desires all bee-keepers in Wisconsin to read, and then write him:

I desire, through the medium of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, to ask its Wisconsin patrons and readers, who contemplate making an exhibit of honey at the World's Columbian Exposition, to write to the Corresponding Secretary of the Wisconsin State Bee-Keepers' Association—J. W. Vance, 208 S. Fairchild Street, Madison, Wis.—signifying their intention. Those who do so will receive by return mail important information upon the subject. Please write to the Secretary at once.

J. W. VANCE, Cor. Sec.

To Regulate Adulteration!

—The latest and most novel idea in regard to the nefarious adulteration business is the suggestion that it now be *regulated*! Just read the following sentence, which we take from one of our agricultural exchanges:

This adulteration business is a great evil, and robbery of the people, and it is high time something was done to regulate it.

It's a "great evil and robbery of the people" is it? Then *regulate* it! Whew! *Regulate robbery*! One would think that some mummy had arisen especially to write that sentence.

No, sir! bee-keepers don't believe in regulating the robbery—*adulteration*! Not much! They have too good sense to have any share in such a suggestion. What they want is to *prohibit* the robbery by putting the robber where he cannot steal from the people. This country has tried "regulation" of some other "great evils"—evils greater than that of adulteration—and the more we have tried to "regulate," the stronger and more powerful and defiant have the evils grown.

Chicago would have had a fine time trying to "regulate" her anarchists a few years ago! But she knew a thing or two about such evils, and just *hung* some of them, and the balance "regulated" themselves accordingly, without any further notice. In this enlightened day of our civilization, if any one has nothing better than "regulation" of an evil to offer, he would better not open his mouth, unless he wishes to be classed with the party who "said in his heart there is no God."

A Correction.—In Mr. Fitz Hart's letter on page 733, read, "he has discovered that there is no foul brood virus in pure honey whilst in comb-cells," instead of the way it was printed, and you will have it the way Mr. Fitz Hart intended to write it.

"Bees and Honey"—page 781.



CONDUCTED BY

Mrs. Jennie Atchley,

GREENVILLE, TEXAS.

Criminality of Food Adulteration.

I have always believed that a man who makes and sells spurious honey or any other food, for that matter, is guilty of criminal disregard of the lives of others. The manufacturer of adulterated foods, destroying human lives (which it certainly does, by degrees, at least), should almost be convicted of murder. Of all species of selfishness, that which prompts a person to adulterate food is a menace to the lives of men, women and children, merely because it pleases his fancy to do so, to catch the spoils of honest people. Such an one will do anything to satisfy his own greed for money. I know nothing more gross and inexcusable.

The country needs some stringent laws on this point. A man should no more be allowed to kill people by inches, than he would be to dish them out strychnine at once. So here is my dollar toward the good work. I do not feel that I can afford it, but will do so for a good cause like this.

JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Kinds of Smoke and Smokers.

First, I do not like poison smoke of any kind, such as tobacco, kerosene-oiled rags, etc. I do not think it necessary, in the handling of bees, to use such poisons. Plain, rotten elm-wood, rags, or, in fact, any kind of fuel that will make good smoke, is sufficient for me, even for Cyprian bees.

And I can use any kind of a smoker that I have ever tried, and know no difference in my work. But, as to my preference, I take a "Bingham." Though I do not think the *kind* of smoker is essential. But get you a good smoker, and go ahead.

Feeder Floats—Honey from the Rocks.

On page 635, G. M. Doolittle advises the use of shavings or cobs for floats in milk-pan feeders. I once lost several quarts of feed by using oak shavings.

I have eaten honey taken from the rocks in Old Mexico. If we can get Mr. Aten to give us the size of entrances, number and distance from each other; the distance that a pole or stick probe can be forced into the openings; the height of cliff above the entrances; the kind of rock, and any other information concerning the inaccessibility of the bee-caves on the Colorado, perhaps we may arrange to come and assist in extracting the sweets next summer, as we know how the thing is done.

GEORGE MOTT, M. D.

Spurger, Texas.

Experience with Bees in Two States.

I began the season in New Hampshire on April 4th, with 3 colonies of blacks, No. 1, the weakest of the 3, I transferred just at the commencement of fruit-bloom, and they gave me ten 1-pound sections well filled, and five partly filled. In August I found them queenless, and they promptly reared another queen, when a frame of brood and eggs were given them.

No. 2 I tiered up on top of the box-hive with 8-frame dovetailed hive, and when the frames were filled with comb, and the queen had gone to "house-keeping" upstairs, I placed her carefully on the stand below, took the box-hive into the house, drummed out the bees, and let them fly back to the old stand. I transferred the brood and the straight worker comb to another dovetailed hive-story, and put it back on top of the first-mentioned dovetailed hive. The sections with starters, on top of this double story hive, were not worked, though they might have been in a better season. The frames were all filled solid.

Number 3 was tiered up the same way. When the frames were filled, I put the queen below, moved the upper story to a new stand, and gave them an Italian queen. The Italian queen bred up so rapidly that in August I drew four heavy frames of brood from her colony, and gave them another Italian queen, and had them all strong enough to cover 8 frames, each with plenty of stores by Sept. 15th.

I then packed the whole in cases and came to Florida, where I began practice

the winter before. I found 3 colonies alive out of 4. Thieves had broken into the yard and did some damage. The hives were full of bees, but empty of honey.

The fall flow began early in October, and continued into November. The hives were all filled and sealed early in November. I purchased 5 colonies that were hived in dry-goods boxes, which I am transferring, and extracting the honey at the same time.

Just now I am in the midst of transferring and extracting. I am getting from 20 to 50 pounds per colony.

I have never tried but one kind of hive, and that takes the Langstroth frame. I have tried many styles of frames, and prefer the Hoffman first, last and all the time.

E. B. WHIPPLE.

Grasmere, Fla., Nov. 18, 1892.

**Neighborhood Visits in Winter.**

Let every bee-keeper visit his neighbor bee-keepers. Get up neighborhood visits. Take your lunch baskets, and your wives, and go to neighbor A's this month, and then to Bro. B's next month, and so on. No need of talking bees all the time, but enough to know how each one is doing. Then have a general good visit. It will do you all good. The long winter is now here. Don't be a clam and sit down by the fire all the time, but make the winter a time for improvement mentally. It will fit you for better work when spring comes. Benefit others, and the reflex action will benefit you.

As the winter season is now before us, we would urge our readers to form clubs or societies for the mutual exchange of ideas, whereby greater success may be attained on the farm, in the garden, orchard or apiary. Farmers, as a class, are somewhat isolated, and their families do not enjoy the privilege of meetings, socials and libraries as those living

in the towns, but as the long winter evenings come on, they can meet around for neighborhood visits, and by systematic efforts can have select readings from standard authors on all subjects interesting to farmers, followed by the personal practice of those present.

One line of work may be taken up one evening, and another the next time, which would prove instructive to all attending. Try it. — *Nebraska Bee-Keeper*.

Wet Earth a Bee-Sting Cure.

Although wet earth has long been known as a cure for bee and wasp stings, very few persons seem to be aware of its value as such. The following example may interest some of the readers:

Four summers ago, at a picnic in the country, one of my boys found a wasp's nest, and must needs amuse himself pelting it with stones, resulting in his getting very badly stung in the face. Fortunately, I remembered of having read of the wet-earth cure, and at once daubed his face with some mud from the road, with the happy result that in about 15 or 20 minutes all the painful effects had ceased, and very little swelling remained.

I have since then used this remedy when stung whilst manipulating my bees, and find it infinitely better than spirits of ammonia or other popular remedies, and the best of it is that it is always ready at hand. — J. F. R. AYLEN, in *British Bee Journal*.

Changing Nectar into Ripe Honey.

Our experiments have led us to the conclusion that all honey brought in from the fields by the outside laborers is given to the young bees, taken into their honey-sacs, and if more is gathered than their sacs can contain, it is deposited in the cells until night, and then evaporated down; although the evaporation is going on to some extent during the daytime. At night all hands join, from the outside laborers with jagged wings down to the bees but a day or so old, and the honey or thin sweet is taken into the honey-sac, thrown out on the proboscis, drawn back in again, and so on until by the heat of the hive these small particles of honey are brought to the right consistency, when it is deposited in the cell. In order to do this the bees hang loosely so that when the proboscis is thrown out it shall not hit another bee, or the combs or hive. Many a night have we watched

their operations, and by the light of a lamp you can see the little drops of nectar sparkle as it is thrown on the proboscis and drawn in again. When honey is coming in slowly, you will not be likely to see this process. All, doubtless have observed that when bees are getting honey plentifully, it shakes readily from the combs at night, while in the morning before the bees go into the fields, not a particle can be shaken from the combs. — G. M. DOOLITTLE, in *Gleanings*.

Bees and Red Clover.

It is an established fact that bees do not get much honey, not enough "to count," from red clover. If a red clover blossom be examined, it will be found often that some of the flowers on the edge of the tuft are shorter than the others. It is possible that the bee occasionally gets an atom of honey from these dwarfed or imperfect blossoms, because the flower-cup is shallow enough to allow the bees to reach the honey secretion in the bottom.

Some one has said that the bees are seen on red clover late in the season. Of course. When honey is scarce, the bees are looking everywhere for it. If a cast-iron imitation of a clover blossom was set up, probably a bee might be seen on it. "Late in the season" bees may be seen on a great many things that do not yield honey. They may be seen, however, on red clover at all seasons of the year, trying, perhaps, to find some honey in the shallow cups described, but late in the year, more of them may be found on red clover. — JULIA ALLYN.

The Nebraska Bee-Keeper

finishes its third volume this month. Its publishers say that on the whole the year has been a prosperous one with them. We are glad to hear this, for we do like to see worthy firms succeed. They expect to add a horticultural department to their paper hereafter. That will open up a large and beautiful field to them, for it is all about

"Flowers, flowers, beautiful flowers,
Emblems of heaven, our bright home above"

Why Not send us one new name, with \$1.00, and get Doolittle's book on "Scientific Queen-Rearing" as a premium? Read the offer on page 711.



Having Divided Colonies as Good as from Swarms.

Query 849.—1. In dividing colonies, is there a way to have the new colony just as good as though it had been a natural swarm, for the production of honey? 2. If so, how may it be accomplished?—Texas.

1. I think not.—JAMES A. GREEN.

1. Y-e-s. 2. L-e-t t-h-e-m s-w-a-r-m.—A. B. MASON.

□ When the colony is about ready to cast a swarm, remove.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

1. I don't believe so. I believe we would better let them swarm once if they will or must do so.—A. J. COOK.

A natural swarm works with greater energy with me than any divided colony which I ever made.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

1. I don't like to divide a colony for honey. 2. Yes, there is a way, but this space is too short to explain.—H. D. CUTTING.

1. *Hardly*; it is very difficult to equal Nature in this respect; although a careful apiarist can come pretty close to it.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

When I take the queen and enough bees from a colony to make a good swarm, I think they do as well as a natural swarm.—R. L. TAYLOR.

1. Yes. 2. Have the colony *strong early*, so as to *divide early*, so it can be *built up early*, and be *early* for the honey-flow.—J. P. H. BROWN.

1. Not as a rule. 2. To attempt to tell why, and how to increase by dividing to the best advantage, is too long a story for this department.—JAMES HEDDON.

1. Yes. 2. Set the old hive to one side, put a new one in its place, and shake down a good swarm of bees, with the old queen, in front of the new hive, and let them go in.—M. MAHIN

There is no way to divide colonies so as to equal natural swarms in producing comb honey; and dividing for increase is only profitable after the main honey-flow is passed.—G. L. TINKER.

1. If every requirement of natural law has been complied with, I see no reason why a divided colony may not be just as good as any. 2. I am not an authority on this point.—EUGENE SECOR.

1. Dividing colonies is an unnatural process but it is a convenience at times. A divided colony will be equal to a natural swarm, as soon as the conditions (after dividing) become the same.—J. E. POND.

1. No; the trouble with dividing is, that the division is usually made weeks before they would swarm naturally, thus greatly interfering with honey-gathering. 2. I don't know.—C. H. DIBBERN.

1. In this locality, yes. 2. Take the queen to the new location, leaving most of the brood at the old stand, and make the division early enough so that both hives will be full of bees when the honey-flow comes.—MRS. J. N. HEATER.

Doolittle will probably say that you should divide while they are under the swarming impulse! At other times would make it about even, giving the most honey to the new colony. Never divide a weak colony, or during or following a poor honey-flow.—W. M. BARNUM.

1. Yes. 2. Make up the new colony with combs of brood taken from strong colonies. Take from one to three brood-combs from each old colony. Leave the queens in the old colonies, make the new colony strong, fill the hive full of brood, and give plenty of hatched bees with the brood-combs. As for a queen, let them rear one, or give them one if you have it.—E. FRANCE.

1. Brother Texas, you did not ask your question to suit me. But for me I will say, yes. 2. If we watch closely, we can tell when to do this by the bees starting queen-cells. Then hunt the queen, and hang the frame she is on in the new hive. Now fill the new hive with empty combs or foundation, and put the new hive on the old stand. Now shake into it as many of the bees (and more, too, if you want to) as you think go out with a natural swarm. Move the old hive away on a new stand. In about three days give it a laying queen, or a cell ready to hatch, and you beat nat-

ural swarming a little.—MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

1. Yes, I can make the new colony just as good as any swarm. 2. Take away half of the brood after shaking off part of the adhering bees. Take the old queen with the brood, etc., and form a new colony of them. Fill up the old brood-nest with empty combs, and give the old colony a young laying queen. The old colony will catch all the flying bees, and the young laying queen will hold the colony together through the longest season, and they will store honey if there is any to be found. The other division will build up to a good colony, and, may be, do more.—G. W. DEMAREE.

CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

Time and place of meeting.

1892.
Dec. 27, 28.—Ohio, at Washington, Ohio.
Dema Bennett, Sec., Bedford, O.
Dec. 27-29.—North American, at Washington.
W. Z. Hutchinson, Sec., Flint, Mich.
Dec. 28, 29.—Vermont, at Burlington, Vt.
H. W. Scott, Sec., Barre, Vt.
1893.
Jan. 10-12.—Ontario, at Walkerton, Ont.
W. Couse, Sec., Streetsville, Ont.
Jan. 13, 14.—S.W. Wisconsin, at Boscobel, Wis.
Edwin Pike, Pres., Boscobel, Wis.
Jan. 12-14.—Minnesota, at Minneapolis, Minn.
A. K. Cooper, Sec., Winona, Minn.
Jan. 16, 17.—Colorado, at Denver, Colo.
H. Knight, Sec., Littleton, Colo.

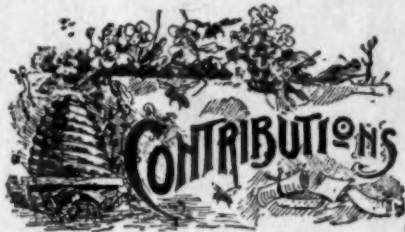
[E] In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITOR.

North American Bee-Keepers' Association
PRESIDENT—Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa.
SECRETARY—W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich.

National Bee-Keepers' Union.

PRESIDENT—James Heddon, Dowagiac, Mich.
SEC'Y AND MANAGER—T. G. Newman, Chicago.

The Ladies' Home Journal, of Philadelphia, Pa., is perhaps the finest monthly home magazine in the world. If ordered before Dec. 20th, 1892, we can club it with the BEE JOURNAL—both JOURNALS for one year—for \$1.60, to either old or new subscribers. If you are a new subscriber to both JOURNALS, you will receive ours the rest of this year free; and the "Ladies' Home Journal" will begin with the January number.



A Living Hive in Winter—Number of Combs.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Many seem to suppose that it is necessary to confine the bees on as few frames as possible during winter for their safe wintering, basing this supposition on the idea that what is needed is the confining of the heat from the bees in as small a compass as possible; reasoning from this, that the cluster of bees will be kept warm.

The line of argument generally presented is, that ventilation, upper absorbents, a vacant space above and around the bees, etc., ventilates the bees to death, on the principle that warm air seeks the top of a room, and that, unless held there by a tight ceiling, the room will not become nearly so warm as it might otherwise. Now, while there is reason in this, regarding the room, the same cannot be fully applied to the beehive, else many colonies of bees would die which now live.

How often it has been given in the bee-papers of the past, that the only colony surviving a hard winter in a large apiary would be one in an old box-hive, which was split from bottom to top, so the snow could blow in on the bees, or that the colony which lived was the one the owner had overlooked, and left all the surplus receptacles on. According to the views expressed by some, these colonies should have died, and those carefully packed, contracted hives should have preserved their bees alive.

I have often noticed that in box-hive apiaries the best colonies of bees in the spring would be those in a tall or large hive that had stores enough in it to crowd the bees down to the bottom-board, and keep them near it all winter; yet according to the theories of some, these colonies should have died or been the poorest. Here the bees were at the

bottom, while, according to some, the heat would have been at the top.

Years ago when I was a boy, father used to put palls on his box-hives in the fall, after he had taken the honey-boxes off. These palls were simply placed on the hives, and the holes leading through the top left open, with no covering of any kind over them; yet such colonies always wintered well. According to theory, the heat should have been in the palls; but I often found, by looking in them on moderate days, that nothing of the kind was there; but on the contrary, the palls were full of frost, which did not melt until the weather became warm enough to melt it from the outside temperature.

Again, I once cut a bee-tree, the combs of which showed that bees had lived in them for years. These combs were six feet long, but the bees had built and filled them, so that during the winter they had always had three feet of air-space above them, yet they did not die. Why is this, if there is truth in this small air-tight-hive principle? Well, I will try very briefly to explain my ideas regarding the matter.

If we have a natural swarm of bees in a large box, and closely watch them work, we find that they suspend themselves from the top in a compact form, appearing like an inverted cone, which, to all appearances, is nearly motionless, so that it will appear as if the bees were idle; while the fact is, that these apparently idle bees are really the colony proper, and inside this, active work is going on, building comb, etc. This is easily seen by passing a wire suddenly through the cluster horizontally, and letting the lower half drop.

Outside this living hive, or crust of bees, the temperature is often not more than 50°, while just inside they are working wax nicely with from 90° to 95°, as I have found by making careful tests with a thermometer. It would be interesting to follow this living hive further, as it expands until it finally touches the hive; how the combs grow inside, etc., but space forbids, so I will simply note the fact that they will fill the hive, unless it is very large, or the supply of honey fails too early.

Now, as cool weather comes on and storage ceases, this living hive contracts instead of expanding, thus keeping the heat inside of its walls to a sufficient extent for the prosperity of the colony. As it becomes extremely cold, the walls of the living hive become more and more condensed, until the larger part of the

bees are engaged in forming this hive; still, I have yet to see a colony which does not have an active force of bees in the center of this living hive, ready to push their way out for an attack, if the box holding the cluster is roughly disturbed. It takes some time for these crust bees to become lively enough to fly; but the inside force can do so at a moment's notice, in any colony I ever experimented with; thus showing that the material enclosing this living hive had little to do with the heat of the cluster, that being controlled by the walls of the living hive.

This living hive is all the while throwing off moisture, and if the box enclosing them is of such shape that this moisture will not collect about the bees, they remain dry, healthy and nice. This is the reason why all kinds of packing are employed to advantage, in my opinion. Instances have been given where colonies of bees have been wintered successfully in a large hive containing less than one-eighth of the comb they would when filled; in fact so little comb that the bees covered all of such comb, except the outer edge, all winter.

After years of contracting the number of combs to suit the size of the cluster, in a part of the hives in my apiary, and leaving a part not so contracted, I have come to the above conclusion; hence the present finds me leaving the same number of combs in the hives in winter as in the summer.

Borodino, N. Y.

Suggestions on Honey-Adulteration from California.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY GEO. W. BRODBECK.

Mr. Newman's article on page 697 is of much interest. In it he states: "Evidently the Union intends to take no steps for a change so as to take up this work as suggested sometime since, for not even one response to that appeal has been heard."

I, as one, plead guilty, but if it is not too late I desire to add a few words in support of the work suggested.

I do not think the members of the Bee-Keepers' Union have been intentionally lax in response to this subject, but have been disposed to await developments, trusting that some person, or persons, would take the initiative to further this project.

Then, again, Prof. Cook has digested

the subject so thoroughly that we all felt disposed to accept it as conclusive; but if it is necessary for us to inform our fellow bee-keepers that we have our shoulder at the wheel, we hereby do so.

I can assure you the California bee-keepers are very much interested in this subject of "Adulteration," and I know that Mr. Newman and the Bee-Keepers' Union have their hearty support, both financially and otherwise. The Union ought to take the aggressive in this movement, and if its present Constitution and By-Laws are inadequate, why not change them to meet the demands?

I, for one, am not disposed to part with our present management, and, with sufficient remuneration for his labors, I know of no one better fitted for the superintendency of this work than Thomas G. Newman. The work would undoubtedly be more than one person could attend to, consequently with an efficient assistant Mr. Newman could score a lasting victory as the crowning effort of a life-long interest in behalf of the bee-keepers of the United States.

Los Angeles, Calif., Nov. 29, 1892.

Honey Adulteration—Appeal to Bee-Keepers.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY PROF. C. L. STRICKLAND.

After the reading of the articles by Prof. Cook and Thomas G. Newman, I feel very much like saying "Amen." I feel my inability to add anything more; however, I will say that the adulteration of honey does exist, and has long been going on. I have fears within me, about conquering this dark affair. Nevertheless, I know that it could and should be done, and I feel like saying it *must* be done, or we honey-producers might just as well select a day wherein to stack our bees and hives and say, "Let her go, Gallagher!" Heaven forbid.

But the trouble is with mankind in general that they are too much disposed to hope for, instead of work for, a change. Lamentable fact! Now the secret of the undertaking is how on earth are we going to work on the minds of this vast number of bee-keepers? How arouse them to such a condition that they can see through the fog of the future sufficiently to alarm them? They all should become interested. Why? Because it takes money, in this progressive age, to combat with any foe. There exists at Washington, parties able to

prosecute this affair to a bitter end, we only furnishing the capital. We are more able to pay, say \$1.00 each, than to have the honey market forever ruined. Producers, we cannot afford to let this monster reach a race-horse speed! "Never."

AN APPEAL TO BEE-BEEPERS.

Bee-keeping friends of America, we are well aware of the fearful condition in the line of manufacturing and offering for sale articles called "honey," and the adulteration of the genuine article, so much so as to almost ruin the markets for the genuine article. How? Why? By the impressions on the minds of the consuming public. The price of honey depends upon the consumption. The consumption depends upon the conditions of the consumers. When the consuming public realizes that the adulteration of honey can no longer exist, and that all the honey offered for sale is pure, and we can convince the masses that honey is not a luxury, but is for all, both tall and wise; and being not only a food, but at the same time a medicine, then, and only then, will we see the greatest consumption of this delicious and God-given article we have ever known.

All thinking bee-keepers, after due reflection, must see that the adulteration and manufacturing and selling of artificial honey is the darkest and most horrible barrier that we producers can have, or ever will have. Now, must this great army of intelligent bee-keepers, right in the face of this ungodly proceeding, only fold their hands in mortal terror, and let it slide over them like an avalanche, and forever hide this glorious, beautiful and intelligent business? It must not be.

Now let us put our shoulder to the wheel—I mean the master wheel (money). Only a dollar each, then a little energy, a little push, and the great machinery of Defense will begin to move, and ere long this fog of oppression would cease to be.

Mark you, while the condition exists, poor prices, poor consumption, poor honey will be the result. "When gone," good prices, good consumption, good honey, good bee-keepers, in good spirits.

Now we must have either, a State or United States law. A United States law would be the best. Let us try. We must do something, and that soon. As Mr. Newman is growing old, he yet might have no serious objections to receiving our contributions, and use the same

as might be required. Please let it be known through our blessed bee-papers, how and where to deposit this \$1.00, and I believe it will be forthcoming.

It costs time, patience and money to keep up bee-keeping; time and money to produce pure and delicious honey. Then to have parties so nearly destitute of principle as to place on the markets spurious honey, almost ruining us, our market and our honey production—we cannot bear much longer. Let those who pray remember us; let those who hope, do something; let those who won't, fear and tremble. Help! Help! the monster is crawling—soon it will run!

With God, all things are possible; with man, many.

Peabody, Kans.

Bees in California—Their Introduction; Harbison, et als.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY W. A. PRYAL.

(Continued from page 761.)

Mr. Biglow then proceeds to state that the queens he selected for shipment to California were of Mr. Parsons' stock. He prepared 113 packages with one-third of a colony of common bees in each, into each of which he introduced an Italian queen. He left New York on Nov. 1st, arrived in Aspinwall on the 9th, and remained on the Isthmus ten days. The bees were allowed to fly fine days during this stoppage.

He left Panama on the 20th, and arrived in San Francisco on Dec. 6th, and immediately transferred the hives to the river steamer, and arrived in Sacramento the next day—one month and seven days from New York. Out of the 113 colonies, 111 arrived safely. One of the colonies deserted its hive at Aspinwall.

In closing this long letter, Mr. Biglow says:

"It is my firm conviction, from what I have seen, that they are peculiarly adapted to the Pacific Coast, especially the mountainous regions of California and Oregon, as the climate so nearly resembles that of their native home."

Mr. Harbison closes his chapter on the Italian bee by some remarks upon breeding them, which observations the test of time has proved well founded.

The "Bee-Keepers' Directory" was probably the first American book to give us any definite knowledge on the Italians. By consulting the third edition of Langstroth on the "Hive and Honey-

Bee," page 328, I find a foot-note where the learned author briefly records the fact that Mr. Wagner made an attempt in 1855, to import Italian bees, but was unsuccessful. Mr. Langstroth says that Mr. Colvin and himself would attempt to bring some over in the spring in which the edition spoken of was published, viz.: 1859.

In an edition of Mr. Quinby's "Mysteries of Bee-Keeping," which is before me, I find that the author states that "Messrs. Mahan and Parsons were among the first to disseminate the new bees," and that "afterward Mr. Rose, of New York, obtained them direct from their native Alps."

Does not Mr. Biglow, in view of the fact that he made so successful a journey—a distance of some 6,000 miles—and only lost 2 colonies, deserve great praise? We wonder all the more at his success, when we consider that he had to carry his bees through such a hot country as the Isthmus! It seems to me that if he had charge of the first importation brought over from Europe to this country in 1855, he would have landed his queens safe and sound in New York.

MR. HARBISON'S GREAT BEE-WORK.

As I have dwelt at such length upon the portion of the book dealing with the Italian bee, I shall endeavor to be brief with my other observations on Mr. Harbison's work.

From his writings we learn that his father was a bee-keeper in Pennsylvania, and used straw skeps. Since 1843 this distinguished California apiarist followed bee-keeping. He soon tired of straw and box hives, and the unnecessary murder of bees to get their honey.

He had thoroughly tried the several hives patented up to 1848, but found them valueless in many respects. He set about improving the hives then in vogue, and one of his discoveries at this early date was the hive with the inclined bottom-board. Another want which he felt was a hive so arranged that the bees together with their combs and contents could be transferred with safety from one hive to another, either for the purpose of removing, or the formation of artificial colonies. "In other words," as he says, "I wanted control of the combs."

MOVABLE PLATFORM HIVE.

In 1848 he perfected a hive that met these requirements. It consisted of a movable platform within the hive, on which the combs were adjusted, and the

whole so elevated that the bees fastened the combs to the top of the hive. He says that the plan worked well. This hive also had a chamber for surplus honey. His success was such that in 1858 he obtained and marketed upward of 6,800 pounds of honey, which sold at 18 cents per pound. The next year was a bad one for bees in the East. There was a drouth; while his neighbors lost from four-fifths to all their colonies, his loss was but about one-half.

He wanted no more bee-keeping in the East. The new Eldorado seemed to him, from the meagre reports he had received as to its sunny and flower-bespangled valleys and hillsides, as pre-eminently a bee-paradise, so on Oct. 27, 1854, he set out by route for San Francisco, which he reached on the 20th of the following month. After $2\frac{1}{2}$ years in the Golden State, he returned to his old home in the East. It was now that he had an opportunity to read the works of Langstroth and Quinby for the first time. He had heard of their inventions previously. He investigated the claims of the Langstroth hive, and did not approve of it after giving it what he calls "a fair trial."

HARBISON'S APIARIAN INVENTIONS.

On his return to California in 1857, he invented what he termed the "California bee-hive." It was a movable frame-hive, the frames being set at fixed distances, and held in rigid position. This was patented Jan. 2, 1858. Previous to this—Dec. 25, 1857—he had brought out his section honey box or frame, which could be used upon any hive. The "Harbison section," as it has since been known the world over, was the forerunner of all the sections now in use. It is used to a great extent in California to this day, but is being superseded by the one-pound section. The Harbison frame section was about 6 inches square, and held 2 pounds. His hive, too, came into use everywhere, up and down the State, and even yet one may see bee-yards of hundreds of hives of this old pioneer.

HONEY-BEES BROUGHT BY MR. SHELTON.

In Chapter II, he speaks of the introduction of the honey-bee into California. A copy of a letter therein printed shows that they were first brought to the State in March, 1853, by a Mr. Shelton. The advent of bees in the "Land of Gold" was brought about under peculiar circumstances. The pioneer bees were poor, lone orphans, as it were, and

though they left New York 12 colonies strong, they were abandoned by their unknown owner at Aspinwall. Mr. Shelton brought them to San Francisco all right, but the sand-hills of that city contained no blooming gardens then as it now does, and the poor famished insects dwindled down to a single colony. They were taken to San Jose (well called the "Garden City" of California), and 52 miles from the metropolis. Here they thrived and threw off three swarms the first season. Mr. Shelton, who saved them from doom, was unfortunately killed soon after his arrival by an explosion of a rotten old ferry steamer. In December two of the swarms were sold at auction to settle up his estate, and were bought by Major James W. Patrick, at \$105 and \$110, respectively.

In November, 1855, Wm. Buck managed to safely land 18 out of 36 colonies he brought from New York. Mr. F. G. Appleton, of San Jose, purchased a half-interest in this last importation. In the fall of 1854, however, Mr. A. bought one colony from Major Patrick.

Messrs. Buck & Appleton now became the big bee-keepers of the State. The former went East again in 1856, and in February following landed 7 out of the 42 colonies he started out with. This firm, from their 28 colonies in 1856, increased to 73, and obtained 400 pounds in boxes, which they sold at from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per pound. This was probably the first honey of any importance sold in California.

How changed is the product of the bee in that land since those pioneer days! The output of the bee-hive is now reckoned by the carload. While the number of pounds increased, the price correspondingly decreased. Honey only realized about 3 cents per pound at one time about ten years ago. What a difference from the figures obtained for the first crop!

(Concluded next week.)

Adulteration of Honey and the Dishonest Bee-Keeper.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY IRA REEVES.

I have been very much interested in the articles published from time to time on the adulteration of honey, and with the help of Mr. R. P. Blades (my neighbor). I think we have unraveled the mystery.

From time to time our grocers have

refused to buy our honey at anything like a fair price, and sent away from home and bought honey almost unfit for use. We could not understand how this was, until, by examination, we found it contained only syrup made from brown sugar. Then the next thing was, how was it produced?

We went to work—built feeders, and made the test, feeding about 6 pounds of syrup made from granulated syrup per day. The result was as pretty looking "honey" as you ever put eyes on, and capped over beautifully. This was done after the end of the spring honey-flow.

It was put on exhibition in the drug-store of Reeves & Co., and admired by everybody, and we could readily have sold every pound of it for 15 cents per pound; but we did not, and informed them that it was simply syrup sealed and capped by bees. It was simply syrup, *without* the *taste* of honey to it! Now let me say: The dishonest bee-keeper is the fellow to blame for all this hue and cry of adulterated honey.

I had about 250 pounds of comb honey this year, and have sold all I had to spare at 15 to 20 cents per pound, and right in the face of adulterated honey sold by our grocers. In some instances the adulterated honey has been sold by being represented as "Reeves'" or "Blades'" honey.

A neighbor came to me and said, "What is the matter with your honey?" I said, "Nothing wrong that I know of."

"Well, we have some honey that was bought as your honey, and it is unfit to eat."

The truth was, we had not sold a single pound at that time.

Now how are we to get rid of the dishonest bee-keeper. When you get rid of him, the battle is won.

Let every honey-producer put his private stamp on honey, and guarantee the purity of the same.

Carmi, Ill., Nov. 19, 1892.

The Present Congress and the "Paddock Pure Food Bill."

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY S. H. MALLORY.

I wish to offer one or two suggestions on the subject of adulteration. Messrs. Cook and Newman advocate the enactment of a national law against adulteration of honey, etc. I agree that we should have such a law, not only against honey adulteration, but other farm pro-

ducts as well, and I have been working for years to get such a law. If you have watched the proceedings of Congress, you are probably aware that a bill of that nature was introduced in the Senate during the last session of Congress; was passed by that body, and is now on the calendar of the House, known as the "Paddock Pure Food Bill." If sufficient pressure is brought to bear on our next house of Representatives, by farmers and bee-keepers, it will probably become a law before the close of the next session.

Would it not be well for Prof. Willits, or some one of our apiarian friends at Washington, to look this Bill over, if not already familiar with it, and see if it does not cover the ground, and so prevent the trouble and delay of preparing and introducing a new Bill? It looks to me that way.

As there is considerable opposition to this Bill, in certain quarters, it will be necessary for bee-keepers to make a general move on Congress, and send in such a flood of petitions and personal letters that our friends in the House will be convinced that we mean business. That is the kind of encouragement they need, if we expect to get anything done.

Hon. H. H. Hatch, of Missouri, was chairman of the Committee on Agriculture in the last House, and I think he has been returned, so he will probably have the handling of this Bill, and can do much to forward its passage.

It seem to me that the North American Bee-Keepers' Association, soon to meet in Washington, should take up and thoroughly discuss this question, and take some decisive action in the direction indicated above. This is a subject that affects the pocket of every bee-keeper who produces a pound of honey to sell, and when the time comes for action, there should be a general rally all along the line, to the rescue of our chosen pursuit from the hands of the villainous adulterators.

Decatur, Mich.

Your Neighbor Bee-Keeper

—have you asked *him* or *her* to subscribe for the BEE JOURNAL? Only \$1.00 will pay for it regularly to *new* subscribers from now to Jan. 1, 1894! And, besides, you can have Newman's book on "Bees and Honey" as a premium, for sending us two new subscribers. Don't neglect your neighbor! See page 781.



Do not write anything for publication on the same sheet of paper with business matters, unless it can be torn apart without interfering with either part of the letter.

They Appreciate the "Bee Journal."

The bee-keepers of California appreciate the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL very much. We are just now having a grand rain. GEO. W. BRODBECK.

Los Angeles, Calif., Nov. 29, 1892.

Plenty of Honey for Winter.

Our honey crop was very light. I got about an average of 3 pounds per colony, and but very little increase. Bees went into winter quarters with plenty of honey. I have 167 colonies at present.

S. D. Cox.

Washington, Ind., Dec. 1, 1892.

Good Honey Crop—Five-Banded Bees.

Our honey crop was good here this season. I had an average of 40 pounds per colony, spring count. One colony gave me 120 pounds alone. The five-banded bees are "hummers." I don't want any more blacks "in mine."

A. J. FREEMAN.

Earleton, Kans., Dec. 1, 1892.

"Where Ignorance is Bliss," Etc.

All who have a few old "gums" (here and in Indiana, Hoopole township, Posey county, and nearly everywhere else there) and box-hives, many of which are not more than 8 inches square, will ridicule a man if he even suggests feeding bees during a starvation summer like the past was, to say nothing about paying for a bee-paper, or buying a few books on apiculture. I have tried it here—fool enough to do so—even after reading what Mr. Alley says about immediately dropping such "chaps."

Occasionally one will buy a fantastical hive, sold by some traveling humbug. Of course, all "sich" hives must have

glass boxes, etc., in them. One old foggy has a double hive; another has a hive with the top one-third projecting on either side. The top is filled with fantastic boxes. None of the bottoms of these fancy hives have an "open sesame" to them. The idea of movable brood-combs has not entered their "noggins." One fossil has a \$15 fantastic, which I haven't seen yet. I shall some day make him a special call. Any professional man will lose caste and patronage if he attempts to tell them anything. A bee-paper is a bigger fraud in their eyes than a street-fakir is in the opinion of the editor of a bee-paper.

There are nine school-houses here on "my beat;" but about as soon as a child is half through the "Three R's," he is taken out of school." There are but few persons, comparatively, who can or will thoroughly master advanced apiculture. I know of none that *can*, having less than a high school education. The great masses are densely ignorant of this subject.

ALBERT SAYLER, M. D.

New Palestine, O., Dec. 5, 1892.

Allegany Co., N. Y., Convention.

At a meeting of the Allegany County Bee-Keepers' Association held at Angelica, N. Y., on Nov. 28, 1892, it was decided that a simple notice of the same should be sent to the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. There were 16 members present (a very stormy day), representing six towns, 373 colonies of bees, and over 12,925 pounds of honey. Our next meeting will be the first Thursday in May, at Belmont, N. Y. The secretary is H. L. Dwight, of Friendship, N. Y.

MRS. J. C. HENDERSON,

Angelica, N. Y.

Sec. pro tem.

Bee-Stings a Cure for Rheumatism.

In a recent issue of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is a request as to whether bee-stings would cure rheumatism or not. I thought I would give some of my experiences. I had been a rheumatic individual for 18 years, not able to work half the time. My brother, Jesse Fairchild, of Chicago, came to visit me in Eastern Kentucky, and found that it was hard for me to keep the wolf from the door. He persuaded me to keep bees, so I bought 3 colonies, and got the book "Bees and Honey," and other bee-literature, and went to work. My first work was to transfer those bees from log

gums to the Langstroth hive. Of course, as I had no veil nor experience with bees, I got lots of stings. My health began to improve. I had good luck in my work with bees. My neighbors soon employed me to help them, so I had lots of work and lots of stings. My health still improved.

The first work I did with bees was about May 15, 1887. That is over five years ago, and I have felt but little rheumatism for three years. I am able to do a day's work now; in fact, I feel like a boy again. Whether the bee-stings cured me or not, I don't know; but one thing I do know, I once was unable to work, and now I am well, and have taken no other rheumatism medicine. I would keep a few colonies of bees, if there was no other pay than their stings.

(REV.) MILLER FAIRCHILD.

Sip, Ky., Nov. 6, 1892.

Are Eight-Frame Hives too Small?

Mr. C. A. Bunch, on page 700, says that "eight-frame hives are too small to hold honey enough to last over until white clover."

I use the eight-frame hive, and I secured 160 pounds of surplus honey in one-pound sections, from 6 young colonies, and when I put them into the cellar, on Nov. 12, they weighed from 55 to 65 pounds each; deducting 18 pounds, the average weight of a hive without the roof, leaves nearly 40 pounds of honey, bees, etc.

I have 11-frame hives, and 3 box-hives in the cellar; 2 of the colonies in box-hives gave me 2 swarms apiece, and now weigh 75 and 94 pounds, respectively. That ought to carry them through.

From my first swarm I got 40 pounds of surplus honey and a swarm; and my second prime swarm 48 pounds, and have enough to winter on. This is 45° north latitude; but we had a very late fall, so the bees kept breeding until November. I have the swarms on empty frames.

JOHN M. SEILER.

Chanhasen, Minn., Nov. 28, 1892.

A Twice-Old Subscriber, Etc.

I cannot well get along without the "old reliable" AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. I commenced taking it when published in Washington, D. C., and have taken it the most of the time since. I shall want it as long as I keep bees, but I don't ex-

pect to keep bees much longer on account of my age—I am now in my 83rd year.

The last summer was the poorest season that I remember of seeing. Bees did very poorly in this section. Some lost all of their bees. I got only 110 pounds of honey from 65 colonies. I have now 60 colonies in the cellar, in good condition. One of my neighbors obtained only 70 pounds from 110 colonies.

WM. C. WOLCOTT.

Eldorado, Wis., Dec. 5, 1892.

[With the above letter our dear old friend renewed his subscription and sent us five new subscribers, which he had secured in one day. What a list we would soon have, if every one of our present subscribers would send in even two or three new subscribers with their own renewal this month! And what great improvements we could make in the old BEE JOURNAL, if we had double or triple our present list of subscribers! Would you like to see them? Well, just try that offer of "Bees and Honey" on page 781, and see what you can do toward bringing about the fulfilment of the foregoing suggestion.—ED.]

Bee-Keeping in Maryland, Etc.

The honey crop was short the past season, as far as I know here in Maryland; in fact, we seldom have a very large flow of honey in this vicinity. I began last spring with 26 colonies. I killed one colony that had an unfertile queen, that laid nothing but drone-eggs. This left me 25 colonies. My bees came through the winter in pretty good condition, I think, but most of them had not much honey. I thought I would let them go through without feeding them, except enough to keep them from dying. The spring was cool up to the latter part of May, and when the honey-flow did come, it came so quickly after cool weather was over that it caught my bees weak—but few in numbers—consequently but little honey was gathered—only about 6 pounds per colony, spring count. I had only 4 swarms, all told.

I struck this year for profit and not much expense. I think I will try the feeding plan another spring, to build them up strong, ready for the harvest, if I and the bees live. I use a hive called the "Success bee-hive." I like

"it very well—better than any other I have ever used.

I feel interested in the "manufactured honey" mentioned by Mr. George H. Auringer, on page 671, and will be glad to hear the result of the investigation.

WM. H. D. BAKER.

Kempton, Md., Nov. 28, 1892.

A Good Report for 1892.

As the honey season is over, I will report my first year's experience in bee-culture. Three years ago I captured a swarm of bees, and increased to 8 colonies. Last year being a poor season, they gathered nothing except a little honey-dew, so I had to feed the 8 colonies \$6.00 worth of sugar syrup, and prepared them for winter by putting a chaff cushion on top of the brood-frames, and packing them on the outside with leaves. They wintered nicely on the summer stands. Last spring being very wet, I fed them \$3.00 worth more of sugar syrup, between apple and white clover bloom. I have increased to 13 colonies, and obtained over 700 pounds of comb honey, which I found ready sale for among my neighbors, at 15 cents per pound. I am satisfied, but I want to know if it is what you call a good crop.

JOHN A. BLOCHER.

Shirley, Ill., Nov. 30, 1892.

[Yes, we should think that you ought to be "satisfied." If all had fared as well as you did, there would have been no reason for bee-keepers to complain. We should say that you had a "good crop," though of course in better seasons some are fortunate enough to secure much more.—Ed.]

Bee-Keeping in New Mexico, Etc.

My report is as follows: Number of colonies, spring count, 16; increase, 9; total, 25. Number of pounds of first-class comb honey in one-pound sections, 1,229 pounds; second class honey in one pound sections, 250; unfinished and unmarketable sections, 200; total yield for the season, 1,679 pounds.

The market is dull at the following prices: First-class one-pound sections of honey, 12½ cents; second class honey in one-pound sections, 10 cents.

I use the Root T super, and would have no other. I winter my bees on the summer stands, with a six-inch chaff cushion over the brood-chamber. My

bees have from 35 to 50 pounds of good honey to winter on. Our honey-flow comes mostly in the latter part of June and the first part of July. There is no foul brood in this immediate vicinity.

Bee-keeping in this sunny clime is pleasant as well as profitable, for the young ladies and school-marms come around to get sweetened up on honey; but they won't be persuaded to take charge of the kitchen and command a regiment of pots, and drive away the loneliness of a bachelor's shanty, but would rather teach school, so as to have a better chance to whip the boys.*

The AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL looks well in its new dress, and is a welcome visitor every week. I could not get along without it.

To-day I delivered to the Ladies' Columbian Committee, of this county, 24 sections of pure alfalfa honey. The notice I received was so short (15 minutes) that I did not have time to properly scrape the sections. It will be in the San Juan county, New Mexico, exhibit, providing it is not stopped on the way to sweeten something or somebody.

G. H. EVERSOLE.

La Plata, New Mex., Nov. 11, 1892.

[*If "honey" won't capture the young ladies, friend Eversole, we don't know what would do it. But may be they think they are "sweet" enough now! We never thought that a good bee-keeper would have any difficulty in persuading a young lady to share his home and honey. The only suggestion we can offer is the old admonition—"If you don't at first succeed, try, try again," etc.—Ed.]

Rheumatism and Bee-Stings—Report.

I noticed on page 562 an account taken from the *British Bee Journal* in regard to bee-stings and rheumatism, and as my father's experience may be of interest to some, I will give it.

Three years ago this winter my father had an attack of *La Grippe*, which left him with severe pain in the temple and forehead, so that he could not rest night or day for about four months. One warm day in early spring, when the bees were taking a cleansing flight, he was walking around among them, when one stung him about an inch above the outer corner of the left eye, in exactly the place where the pain was most severe. As he is accustomed to being

stung occasionally, he thought nothing more about it until in a very short time he noticed that the pain had disappeared. That was three years ago, and he has had no trouble with rheumatism or pain in his head since then.

The honey crop, the past season, was light in this part of the State. Golden-rod and some other fall flowers yielded an abundance of honey, so that the bees have gone into winter quarters in better condition than for some years.

M. A. DOOLITTLE.

Bethlehem, Conn., Dec. 3, 1892.

The World's Fair Women

"Souvenir" is the daintiest and prettiest book issued in connection with the World's Fair. It is by Josephine D. Hill—a noted society lady of the West—and contains superb full-page portraits and sketches of 31 of the World's Fair women and wives of prominent officials connected with the great Fair. It is printed on enameled paper, with half-tone engravings, and is bound in cloth, and also in black, red, white or blue leatherette, gold lettered. Just the thing for a Christmas gift to your friend. We will send it postpaid for \$1.00, or give it for two new subscribers to the BEE JOURNAL for a year, at \$1.00 each. Every woman will want a copy of this book, we feel sure.

Excellent Weekly.—The splendid *Maryland Farmer*, for November, published at 213 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, Md., contained the following kindly notice of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL:

We record the fact that this old and excellent weekly journal has changed hands, and comes to us in a new dress. It has always been a paper full of enterprise, and we wish its present proprietors abundant success.

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The Date on the wrapper-label of this paper indicates the end of the month to which you have paid for the JOURNAL. If that is past, please send us one dollar to pay for another year. This shows that Mr. Porter has paid his subscription up to the end of December, 1893:

Wallace Porter Dec93
Suffield, Portage co, Ohio

Honey & Beeswax Market Quotations.

The following Quotations are for Saturday, December 10th, 1892:

CHICAGO, ILL.—Demand for comb honey is quite good, and choice lots bring 18c., others in proportion. Extracted, 6@9c., according to what it is—sales chiefly at 8@9c.
Beeswax—23@25c.

R. A. B.

CHICAGO, ILLS.—Considerable honey coming in. Fancy stock for Holidays will bring fancy price. White comb now selling 16@17 cts., with dull market owing to mild weather. Extracted holds firm 8@9c. for fancy; 7c. for dark.

Beeswax—23@25c.

J. A. L.

KANSAS CITY, MO.—Receipts and stocks very light, demand good. We quote: No. 1 white 1-lbs. 16@17c.; No. 2, 14@15c.; No. 1 amber 1-lbs. 15c.; No. 2 amber, 10@12c. Extracted, white, 7@7½c.; amber, 5@6.

Beeswax—20@23c.

C. M. C. C.

CINCINNATI, OHIO.—Demand is good for honey, with scant supply of all kinds. Extracted brings 6@8c., and comb sells at 14@16c. for best white. Although honey is scarce, there is no demand for dark comb.

Beeswax—Demand good, at 20@25c. for good to choice yellow. Supply good. C. F. M. & S.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.—Choice extracted is scarce at 7@7½c., and demand heavier than supply. Choice comb is not scarce at 10@12c., according to quality. 1-lbs. Beeswax is neglected at 22@23c.

S. L. & S.

BOSTON, MASS.—Comb honey is selling slow, very much slower than we like to have it, and it is our experience that when we start honey in at a high price, it sells hard right through the season. We quote our market nominally at 17@18c. for best white honey, 1-lb. combs. Extracted, 8@9c.

Beeswax—None on hand.

B. & R.

KANSAS CITY, MO.—Demand good, supply very light. White 1-lbs., 18c. Extracted, 6@7c. New crop is arriving and is very fine. No Beeswax on the market.

H. & B.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—Market good and new crop is arriving, but mostly dark is being marketed. Fancy white clover 1-lbs. sell fast at 18c.; 2-lbs. 16@17c. Buckwheat, comb, 13@14c. Extracted, in barrels, 7@8c.; in 5 or 10 lb. kegs., 9@10c.

J. A. S. & C.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—No. 1 white 1-lbs., 18c.; No. 2, 16@17c. No. 1 dark 1-lbs., 13@14 cts.; No. 2, 12½c. Old honey 2c. to 3c. per lb. lower. New extracted (not candied), white, 8@9c.; dark, 6@7c. Old extracted (candied) slow sale at 2 to 3c. lower per lb.

S. & E.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—White comb is arriving in sufficient quantities to supply the demand which is gradually slackening off. We quote: Fancy white 1-lbs. 15@16c.; 2-lbs. 12@13c. Fair white 1-lbs. 12@13c.; 2-lbs. 11c. More buckwheat honey on the market than the demand requires and in order to effect sales—prices have to be shaded. 1-lbs. glassed or in paper boxes, 10@10½c.; unglassed, 9@10c.; 2-lbs. 9c. Extracted, white clover and basswood, 8@8½c. Buckwheat, 6@6½c. South-ern, 7@7½c. per gallon.

Beeswax—Dull at 25@26c.

H. B. & S.

ALBANY, N. Y.—Honey market some quieter and prices some easier. White clover, 15@17c.; mixed, 14@15c.; dark, 10@11c. Extracted, white, 8@8½c.; mixed, 7@7½c.; dark 7c. Stocks light of both comb and extracted.

Beeswax, 27@28c.

H. R. W.

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SCHACHT, LEMCKE & STEINER, 10 Drumm St.

Minneapolis, Minn.

STEWART & ELLIOTT, 22 Bridge Square.
J. A. SHEA & CO., 14 & 16 Hennepin Avenue.

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Convention Notices.

THE NORTH AMERICAN Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its annual Convention in Washington, D. C., Dec. 27, 28, 29, 1892.
Flint, Mich. W. Z. HUTCHINSON, Sec.

OHIO.—The Ohio State Bee-Keepers' annual convention will be held in the Parlors of the Cherry Hotel, at Washington, Fayette Co., Ohio, on Dec. 27-28, 1892. Further particulars later.
DEMA BENNETT, Sec.
Bedford, Ohio.

ONTARIO, CAN.—The annual meeting of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in Walkerton, Ont., on Jan. 10, 11 and 12th, 1893. All interested in bee-keeping are cordially invited to be present.
Streetsville, Ont. W. COUSE, Sec.

COLORADO.—The Colo. State Bee-Keepers' Association will hold their annual meeting in Denver, on Jan. 16 and 17, 1893. Election of officers and other important business will come before the meeting.
Littleton, Colo. H. KNIGHT, Sec.

MINNESOTA.—The annual meeting of the Minnesota Bee-Keepers' Association will be held at Minneapolis, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 12, 13 and 14, 1893. The Thursday meeting will probably be a union meeting with the Horticultural Society which meets at the same place, commencing on Tuesday.
Winona, Minn. A. K. COOPER, Sec.

VERMONT.—The eighteenth annual meeting of the Vermont Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in the city of Burlington, Vt., on Dec. 28 and 29, 1892. Every one interested in apiculture is earnestly desired to be present. As a bee-keepers' association, we know no State lines, but will gladly welcome all that come. Programs will be published soon. Holiday rates on the railroads.
Barre, Vt. H. W. SCOTT, Sec.

WISCONSIN.—The Southwestern Wisconsin Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its next annual meeting at Boscobel, Grant Co., Wis., on Jan. 13 and 14, 1893. All members of the Association are requested to be present as the following officers are to be elected: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Sec., and Treasurer. Blank Reports will be sent each member, for the year 1892, with instructions. A cordial invitation is extended to all bee-keepers, and especially to those that would like to join with us. Each member will be notified at least one month before the meeting.
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